In the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of the claims in this application.

1. Cancelled
2. Cancelled
3. Cancelled
4. Cancelled
5. Cancelled
6. Cancelled
7. Cancelled
8. Cancelled
9. Cancelled
10. Cancelled
11. Cancelled
12. Cancelled
13. Cancelled

14. (New) A master cylinder (1) for a motor vehicle braking system, comprising:

a body (2) made of non-magnetic material;

a bore (3) located in the body (2) of the master cylinder;

a variable-volume pressure chamber (5) within the bore (3);

a piston (34) located in the bore that slides therein for varying the volume of the pressure chamber (5); and

a detection device (9) fixed to the body (2) of the master cylinder and facing the bore for detecting actuation of the braking system corresponding to movement of the piston, said detection device having first circuit and a second circuit that are opened or closed by a magnetic piece (19) carried by the piston (4), characterized in that said first magnetic circuit is defined by a first pole piece (29) having a first gap (26) formed with the magnetic piece (19), a second pole piece (30) having a second gap (27) formed with the magnetic piece (19) and a magnet (32) located between the first and second pole pieces such that when said piston is in a rest position a residual magnetic flux flows in said first magnetic circuit by way of said first and second air gaps and said second magnetic circuit is defined by a third pole piece (31) having a third gap (25) formed with the magnetic piece (19) and a fourth gap (24) formed between said first pole piece (29) and said third pole piece (31) and a magnetic-field-

variation sensor (28) that is isolated from said residual magnetic flux flow in said first magnetic circuit by said third gap and said fourth gap when the piston (34) is in the rest position and only when the piston moves is the magnetic-field-variation sensor (28) closed and magnetic flux flow occurs in the second magnetic circuit to provide an indication of the movement of the piston (34).

15. (New) The master cylinder according to claim 14, characterized in that said first pole piece (29), said second pole piece (30) and said third pole piece (31) are mutually parallel and are perpendicular to a forward travel of the piston (34).

16.(New) The master cylinder according to claim 15, characterized in that a sum of the first air gap (26) and second air gap (27) is less than a sum of the first gap (26), third air gap (25) and fourth air gap (24) and as a result said second magnetic circuit is initially isolated from said first magnetic circuit.

17. (New) The master cylinder according to claim 16, characterized in that the magnetic piece (19) is a sleeve tube (19) having a length equal to a working stroke of the piston (34) such that when the piston (34) is in the rest position the first and second magnetic circuits are open and on movement of said piston said first and second magnetic circuit remains are sequentially closed.

18. (New) The master cylinder according to claim 17, characterized in that the magnetically sensitive element is a reed switch.

19. (New) The master cylinder according to claim 17 wherein said movement of said magnetic piece (19) a signal is derived from said first magnetic circuit to provide a continuous visual indication of a brake application.